

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/EP 03/13984

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 C22B1/10 C 5/00 B01J8/18 F27B15/02

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 C22B B01J F27B C21B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 3 578 798 A (LAPPLE WALTER C ET AL) 18 May 1971 (1971-05-18) column 1, line 65 - column 2, line 75; figures 1,3 column 4, line 26 - line 44	15, 16, 18
A	US 5 783 158 A (TACKE MICHAEL ET AL) 21 July 1998 (1998-07-21) column 3; claims 1-6; figure 1	1-24

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

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- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
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- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *&* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

25 May 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

03/06/2004

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Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 3578798	A	18-05-1971	NONE	
US 5783158	A	21-07-1998	DE 19609284 A1	11-09-1997
			AU 1511697 A	11-09-1997
			BR 9701233 A	10-11-1998
			CA 2199529 A1	09-09-1997
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			ZA 9701994 A	07-09-1998